

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached Replacement Sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This Replacement Sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1. In amended Fig. 1, the reference numerals "1000" and "2000" have been deleted.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet showing changes

REMARKS

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 6, 2005. Claims 1-26 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 8, 15, and 23 are in independent form. New Claims 23-26 have been added to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection. Claims 1, 5-8, and 12-22 have been amended to define Applicant's invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The specification has been amended to reflect the Examiner's suggested changes for correcting the informalities noted in section 2 of the Office Action. Applicant submits that these changes add no new matter to the original disclosure, and respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure.

Submitted herewith is a Replacement Sheet of corrected drawings for Fig. 1, in which the reference numerals "1000" and "2000" have been deleted. Applicant submits that the amendments to the drawings add no new matter to the original disclosure. Approval of the amended drawings and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

The Office Action states that Claims 15-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended independent Claim 15 to be directed to a program stored in a storage medium and executed by a computer, and has amended Claim 22 to be directed to a computer program product embodying a computer-executable program for implementing a print controlling method. The subject matter of amended claims 15-22 is respectfully submitted to be statutory and therefore withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

The Office Action states that Claims 1-4, 7-11, 14-18, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,126,858 (Kurogane et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,905,935 (Wakamatsu et al.); and that Claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, and 20 are rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurogane et al. in view of Wakamatsu et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,045,158 (Bergstresser). Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 8, and 15, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

An aspect of the present invention set forth in independent Claim 1 is directed to a print controlling apparatus that controls a printing device. The printing device outputs a mixture of a first print paper that is not to be folded and a second print paper that is to be folded into a predetermined form. The first print paper and the second print paper are different in size from each other. The print controlling apparatus includes input means, producing means, and control means.

The input means functions to input information representing a presence/absence of a fold designation. The producing means functions to produce print data by adding additional information to information to be printed. The control means functions to control a print position of the additional information on a print image corresponding to the print data produced by the producing means, based on the presence/absence of the fold designation inputted by the input means. The control means controls the print position to be different for the first print paper in comparison with the second print paper.

A notable feature of Claim 1 is that the control means controls a print position of the additional information based on the presence/absence of the fold designation, and the print

position is different for a first print paper that is not to be folded than for a second print paper that is to be folded into a predetermined form. That is, when print paper to be folded is mixed in with print paper that is not to be folded, the print position is controlled to be different for the two types of print paper. Support for Claim 1 may be found, for example, in the specification at page 11, lines 3-17, and in Figs. 4A and 4B.

Kurogane et al. relates to a picture image processing system that performs picture image editing and composing functions. Apparently, processed picture image information, such as numerals and messages, are composed and outputted at several positions on a sheet of paper by the Kurogane et al. system.

Wakamatsu et al. relates to a copying-machine finisher that folds paper into a Z shape. Apparently, Wakamatsu et al. teaches that the copying machine has an operation panel on which an ON/OFF operation is conducted.

Applicant submits that a combination of Kurogane et al. and Wakamatsu et al., assuming such combination would even be permissible, would fail to teach or suggest a print controlling apparatus that includes “control means for controlling a print position of the additional information on a print image corresponding to the print data produced by said producing means, based on the presence/absence of the fold designation inputted by said input means, wherein said control means controls the print position to be different for the first print paper in comparison with the second print paper,” as recited in Claim 1. Neither reference is understood to show that a print position is controlled differently depending on whether paper is to be folded or not to be folded.

Further, Bergstresser relates to a folding technique that exposes margin areas where index information can be printed, but is not understood to remedy the deficiencies of Kurogane et al. and Wakamatsu et al.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent Claim 1 is patentable over the cited art and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Independent Claims 8 and 15 include a control feature similar to that of Claim 1. Therefore, those claims also are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Additionally, the other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above, and therefore are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim also is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

New Claims 23-26 relate, at least in part, to sending instructions for a fold designation from a printer driver to a print device to cause the print device to output a print paper folded into a predetermined form. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Kurogane et al., Wakamatsu et al., nor Bergstresser discloses or suggests such a feature.

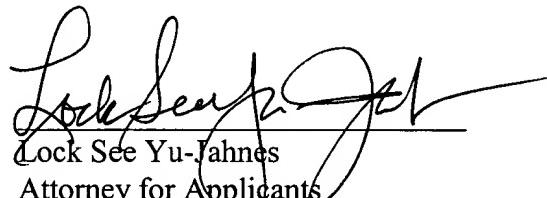
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and an early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the this Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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FIG. 1

